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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/775,237	02/11/2004	Tatsuo Murai	ASAM.0111	1008

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EXAMINER

BLACKMAN, ROCHELLE ANN J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2851

DATE MAILED: 04/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/775,237

Applicant(s)

MURAI ET AL.

Examiner

Rochelle Blackman

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 February 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 7 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 8 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

Claim 8 is objected to because of the following informalities: on lines 2 and 6 of the claim, "vicinities" should be - in the vicinity- -. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chimura et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003-0202160).

Regarding claim 1, Chimura discloses a liquid crystal projector (see FIGS. 1-15) comprising: an equipment body (4) containing projection means (8) and cooling means (9) and including an air intake port (2b, 4d) and an air exhaust port (45); a case (2, 3) for

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housing said equipment body; and a sliding device (4c) for sliding said case so as to take a first state (see FIGS. 8A-C) in which said equipment body is pulled out of said case and a second state (see FIGS. 9A-C) in which said equipment body is housed in said case, said air intake port and said air exhaust port being closed at said second state (see 2b and 45 in FIGS. 9A-C) and opened outside at said first state (see 2b and 45 in FIGS. 8A-C).

Regarding claim 2, Chimura discloses wherein said equipment body comprises an air duct (see channel formed by element 4d in element 41 of "equipment body" 4 in FIG. 8C) which opens said air intake port and said air exhaust port outside at said first state.

Regarding claim 5, Chimura discloses wherein said case includes a notch (see 4c) extending from a part of one side surface to a part of another side surface of said case through a bottom surface, and said equipment body includes a fitting part (see 3a) which fits into said notch, and travels along said notch as said case travels with respect to said equipment body.

Regarding claim 6, Chimura discloses wherein said case comprises a case body (see 1 and 2) for housing said equipment body and a case part provided on a front surface of said equipment body.

Regarding claim 8, Chimura discloses wherein said projection means comprises a projection lens (see 8), an optical device (the projector is considered to have some sort of optical device, such as display panels, mirrors, prisms, etc. in order for the

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projector to function) disposed vicinities of said projection lens, a light source (53) disposed in the vicinity of said optical device and a ventilation fan (9) disposed vicinities of said light source, and said optical device comprises an optical element (see previous reference to "optical device") disposed on a rear side of said projection lens and a display panel (also see previous reference to "optical device) disposed vicinities of said optical element.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chimura et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003-0202160) in view of Furuhashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,951,136).

Chimura discloses the claimed invention including said air exhaust port is provided on a rear portion of said equipment body (see location of 45), and said case comprises intake ventilation holes (see 2b) for opening said air intake port (4b) outside through said air duct.

Chimura does not appear to disclose "wherein said air intake port is provided on a bottom surface of said equipment body; said case comprises... exhaust ventilation

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holes for opening said air exhaust port outside through said air duct; wherein said exhaust ventilation holes are provided on a rear surface side of a top surface, a rear surface side of side surfaces, or rear surface of said case, and said intake ventilation holes are provided on a front surface side of a bottom surface of said case”.

Furuhata teaches providing an air intake port (150 of FIG. 3) provided on a bottom surface of an equipment body (10 of FIG. 3); said case comprises...exhaust ventilation holes (160 of FIG. 3) for opening said air exhaust port outside through an air duct; wherein said exhaust ventilation holes are provided on a rear surface side of a top surface, a rear surface side of side surfaces, or rear surface of said case (see location of 160 in FIG. 3), and said intake ventilation holes are provided on a front surface side of a bottom surface of said case (see location of 151 in FIG. 3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the liquid crystal projector of the Chimura reference with the air intake port, the intake ventilation holes, and exhaust ventilation holes at the above-mentioned locations as taught by Furuhata, for the purpose of efficiently cooling a prism unit and projection lens while preventing airborne debris from contaminating the projector (see col. 2, lines 35-39 and col. 10, lines 47-51).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 7 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rochelle Blackman whose telephone number is (571) 272-2113. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RB


JUDY NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER